view of a stay obtained by the private operators of this route through the Court of Law.

Linking of Gurgaon Telephones with M.T.N.L

891. SHRI B. L. PANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to link Gurgaon Telephones with M.T.N.L. as in the case of Faridabad etc. and do away with STD for Delhi; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to link Gurgaon Telephones with MTNL on local call basis.

(b) Question does not arise.

"Forest Land in Kerala"

892. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new decision has been taken by Government to give title deeds to the cultivators settlers of Forest land in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Occupancy at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port

893. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that berth occupancy at Jawahar Lal Nehru port is very low at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the names of the shipping lines who have been regular users of the port; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve the occupancy of the port?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KATADIA): (a) The average berth occupancy at bulk terminal during the year is 74 per ent & at Container Terminal it is 18 per cent which is very low.

(b) The port was inaugurated only in May, 1989 and had teething problems including lack of certain infrastructural facilities. There is reluctance on the part of users to switch over their operations from Bombay to Jawahar Lal Nehru Port.

(c) A list is given in the statement attached.

(d) The following steps have been/are being taken to improve occupancy of the port:

(i) Training of staff.

(ii) Rectification of defects of handling equipments.

(iii) Efforts are being made to get NH 4B completed as early as possible.

(iv) Aggressive Marketing strategy has been adopted to attract more container traffic.

(v) A Tele-communication centre having telex/fax facilities has been opened at the Port Users' Building.

(vi) Central Documentation Centre has started functioning for the convenience of port users.

(vii) Improvement in transport facilities between Bombay and Jawahar Lal Nehru Port has been brought.

Statement

Names of the shipping lines who have been regular users of the port.

The following shipping lines/Agencies have been regular users of the port:

1. Campagnie Maritime Belge (CMB).
2. Gulf India Limited.
3. Centship.
4. Blasco.
5. Lloyds Tristine.
6. Conard Ellerman.
7. Great Eastern Shipping Agency.
8. Shipping Corporation of India.

Shipping Lines at S. No. (3) to (6) have started operation from 15.2.1991. At bulk terminal number of vessels which belong to various lines and are chartered by Shipping Agencies are handled.

Installation of Telephone Lines during Eighth Five Year Plan

894. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what would be the total number of telephone lines installed during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) what would be the telephone connections in urban and rural areas; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to ensure that at least every village having one post office has one telephone connection and every gram panchayat would be connected with telephones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) Draft 8th Plan proposals envisage commissioning of 52 lakh telephone connections to reach a status of about 98 lakh telephone connections.

(b) Telephone connections in urban and rural areas are expected to reach a level of 84.40 lakh and 13.60 lakh respectively by the end of 8th Plan.

(c) There is no proposal to provide telephone facility to all villages having post offices but draft proposals envisage extension of telephone facility to each Gram Panchayat by the end of the 8th Plan period.

Plan to connect every village, Post Office and Primary School to Telephone Connection

895. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to connect every village, post office and primary schools with telephone connections;

(b) whether it is a fact that the proportion of rural telephones is less compared to urban telephones; and

(c) what is the plan formulated by Government to have proportionate development in communication systems in rural and urban areas of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) No, Sir. The draft 8th Plan proposals cover provision of telephone facility to each gram panchayat only.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The department has formulated draft 8th Plan proposals to provide telephone on demand in rural areas in addition to provision of telephone facility in each gram panchayat. This compares very favourably with the objectives for larger than 5000 lines exchanges which are located mostly in urban areas. For these the objective is to keep a waiting period of